This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 25, 2008. Claims 1, 8 and 10 are pending in the application, all of which are independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the claims allegedly contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Applicant submits that the foregoing amendments to the claims have removed the offending terms. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1, 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Published Appln. No. 2004/0021905 (Holmstead) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,930,467 (Morita). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns an information processing apparatus that acquires a plurality of image data from a server device via a network and controls a printer to print a print job generated from the plurality of image data. In one aspect of the invention, after transmitting the image data from a cache memory to a printer, image data, which is stored in the cache memory and is not designated to be printed, is deleted from the cache memory and a second list is overwritten with a first list. These features make it possible to avoid repeatedly downloading the same image data from a server during consecutive rounds of printing.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus that acquires a plurality of image data from a server device via a network and controls a printer to print a print job generated from the plurality of image data. The apparatus includes a first list creation unit that creates a first list of identification information for a plurality of image data designated to be printed; a cache memory that stores printed image data which has been printed during previous rounds of printing; a second list storing unit that stores a second list of identification information for the printed image data stored in said cache memory; a comparison unit that compares the first list and the second list; an acquisition unit that acquires, from the server device, image data identified by identification information which is not included in the second list but in the first list and stores the acquired image data in the cache memory; a transmission unit that transmits image data identified by the identification information included in the first list from the cache memory to the printer after the acquisition unit acquires the image data from the server device; a deletion unit that deletes, from the cache memory, the image data which is not designated to be printed, after the transmission unit transmits the image data from the cache memory to the printer; and an overwriting unit that overwrites the second list with the first list after the transmission unit transmits the image data from the cache memory to the printer.

Applicant submits that the cited references, namely Holmstead and Morita, whether considered alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of the present invention. In particular, Holmsteand as modified by the teachings of Morita fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of acquiring, from a server device, image data identified by identification information which is not included in a second list but in a first list and storing the acquired image data in a cache memory, transmitting image data identified by the

identification information included in the first list from the cache memory to a printer after acquiring the image data from the server device, deleting from the cache memory, the image data which is not designated to be printed, after the transmission of the image data from the cache memory to the printer, and an overwriting the second list with the first list after the transmission of the image data from the cache memory to the printer.

In contrast to the present invention, Holmstead fails to disclose the cache memory, the list storing unit, the deletion unit and the overwriting unit of Claim 1. Instead, Holmstead discloses holding print jobs in a local memory (blocks 414 and 814 of Fig. 4). That is, as Holmstead discloses holding print jobs, Holmstead fails to disclose a deleting unit and an overwriting unit as recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, a system in accordance with Holmstead must continuously store a large number of unnecessary print jobs.

Furthermore, Morita discloses that in order to shorten access time needed for accessing to File Access Table (FAT) in a Hard Disk Drive (HDD), the FAT is stored in Random Access Memory. Then, the FAT stored in the RAM is updated when files in the HDD are changed. Eventually, the FAT in the HDD is updated by the FAT in the RAM. Therefore, the FAT of Morita is merely information showing the positions of data in the HDD. However, neither the first list for managing a plurality of image data designated to be printed nor the second list for managing the printed image data stored in cache memory of Claim 1 disclosed in Morita. Furthermore, Morita merely discloses that the FAT in RAM and FAT in HDD are updated when a file in the HDD is modified. Therefore, Morita fails to disclose a deletion unit that deletes, from the cache memory, image data which is not designated to be printed, after the transmission unit transmits the image data from the cache memory to the printer and an overwriting unit that overwrites the second list with the first list after the transmission unit

transmits the image data from the cache memory to the printer, as featured in Claim 1 of the present application.

Therefore, as neither Holmstead nor Morita disclose or suggest at least the features of a deletion unit that deletes, from the cache memory, image data which is not designated to be printed, after the transmission unit transmits the image data from the cache memory to the printer and an overwriting unit that overwrites the second list with the first list after the transmission unit transmits the image data from the cache memory to the printer, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claims 8 and 10 are directed to a computer-readable medium and a method, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 8 and 10 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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